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Patentee Chun Yuen To

Title RING BINDER

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STATEMENT OF STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR CLAIM CHANGES
(37 C.F.R. 1.173(c))

* The undersigned makes this statement as part of the accompanying application for the reissue of letters patent for the improvement in RING BINDER, Patent No. 5,842,807, granted on December 1, 1998.

Upon entry of the amendment incorporated into the filing of this reissue application, the status of claims 1-27 is that all claims are pending.

Support for new independent claim 18 is found in the specification and drawings which disclose the function of rivet 30 as securing a ring binder to a base member. Support for new independent claim 19 is found in the drawings of the original patent, particularly Figs. 3B and 4, which show that the securing elements each have a free end located at the end of the securing fastener farthest from the engagement portion. Support for each of the new dependent claims 20-27 is found in the drawings of the original patent.

Respectfully submitted,



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equidistantly, from the longitudinal axis 42 of the cylindrical body 32. The cylindrical body 32, head 34, flat plate 36 and claws 38 are all integrally formed, so as to enhance the strength of the rivet 30. When assembled, the flat plate 36 abuts against that surface of the cover 40 facing the ring binder 2. Such an arrangement enhances the stability of the rivet 30, hence the ring binder 2, relative to the cover 40.

It should be noted that the above only illustrates examples whereby the present invention may be carried out, and that further modifications and changes may be made to the above example without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A ring binder adapted to be secured to a base member, the ring binder comprising:
 - ✓ a substantially rigid integral upper structure;
 - ✓ a pivotable lower structure supported by said upper structure;
 - ✓ a plurality of ring members mounted to said lower structure; and
 - ✓ at least one integral securing means for securing said ring binder to said base member, said at least one securing means including:
 - an engagement portion in direct engagement with the upper structure for attaching said securing means to said upper structure; and
 - a plurality of securing elements for securing said ring binder to the base member, at least 75% of said elements extending away from a longitudinal axis of the engagement portion.

2. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that substantially all the securing elements generally extend away from the longitudinal axis of the engagement portion.

3. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that the securing elements are positioned substantially equidistant from the longitudinal axis of the engagement portion.

4. A ring binder according to claim 1 wherein the ring binder has a longitudinal axis and is further characterized in that the longitudinal axis of the engagement portion is transverse to the longitudinal axis of the ring binder.

5. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that the securing elements are deformable to secure the base member.

6. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that each securing element comprises an arcuate sector.

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Sub B1> 1. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that the engagement portion is substantially upstanding.

2. A ring binder according to claim 7 further characterized in that the upper structure comprises a recess with which the upper end of the engagement portion is deformable to engage.

~~3.~~ 9. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that the securing elements depend downward from a plate member of the securing means.

10. ✓ 10. A ring binder according to claim 9 further characterized in that the plate member is adapted to abut against the base member.

11. A ring binder according to claim 9 wherein the ring binder has a longitudinal axis and is further characterized in that the plate member is substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the ring binder.

Sub B2> 12. A ring binder according to claims 1, 9, 10 or 11 further characterized in that the engagement portion comprises an upper end deformably to engage the upper structure.

13. A ring binder according to claim 1 further characterized in that the securing elements are positioned substantially equidistant from the longitudinal axis of the engagement portion;

the securing elements depend downward from a plate member of the securing means, wherein said plate member is adapted to abut against the base member; and

the engagement portion comprises an upper end deformably to engage the upper structure.

14. A ring binder according to claims 9 or 13 further characterized in that the engagement portion is integrally formed with the securing elements.

Sub B3> 15. A ring binder according to claims 8 or 13 further characterized in that the engagement member is integrally formed with the plate.

16. A ring binder according to claims 1 or 13 further characterized in that the plate is integrally formed with the securing elements.

17. A ring binder according to claim 13 further characterized in that

the engagement member is integrally formed with the securing elements and the plate; and
the plate is integrally formed with the securing elements.

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18. A ring binder adapted to be secured to a base member, the ring binder comprising:

a substantially rigid upper structure;

a pivotable lower structure supported by said upper structure;

5 a plurality of ring members mounted to said lower structure; and

at least one integral securing fastener for securing said ring binder to said base member, said at least one securing means including,

10 an engagement portion in direct engagement with the upper structure for attaching said securing fastener to said upper structure; and

a plurality of securing elements for securing said ring binder to the base member, at least 75% of said elements extending away from a longitudinal axis of the engagement portion.

19. A ring binder adapted to be secured to a base member, the ring binder comprising:

a substantially rigid upper structure;

a pivotable lower structure supported by said upper structure;

5 a plurality of ring members mounted to said lower structure; and

at least one integral securing fastener for securing said ring binder to said base member, said at least one securing means including,

10 an engagement portion in direct engagement with the upper structure for attaching said securing fastener to said upper structure, and

securing elements for securing said ring binder to the base member, the securing elements each having a free end located at the end of the securing fastener farthest from the engagement portion, at least 75% of said elements extending away from a longitudinal axis of the engagement portion.

20. A ring binder as set forth in claim 19 wherein the securing elements all have substantially the same length.

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21. A ring binder as set forth in claim 19 wherein the free ends of the securing elements lie substantially in the same plane.

22. A ring binder as set forth in claim 19 wherein the engagement portion comprises a generally tubular body having an upper end engaging the upper structure, the securing elements being located remotely from the upper end of the tubular body.

23. A ring binder as set forth in claim 22 wherein the tubular body and securing elements are integrally formed.

24. A ring binder as set forth in claim 23 wherein the tubular body and securing elements are formed as one piece.

25. A ring binder as set forth in claim 24 wherein the securing fastener further comprises a flat plate engageable with the base member, and wherein the securing elements depend from the flat plate.

26. A ring binder as set forth in claim 25 wherein the tubular body, the flat plate and the securing elements are integrally formed.

27. A ring binder as set forth in claim 26 wherein the tubular body, the flat plate and the securing elements are formed as one piece.

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